

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-23 were originally filed. Claims 17-23 were previously canceled without prejudice. Claims 2-3 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, and 11-15 are currently amended. Claims 6, 8-10, and 16 are  
5 unchanged since the prior Response. Claims 24-35 are added. Accordingly, claims 1, 4-16, and 24-35 are pending.

Applicant submits that the amended claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record. Applicant further submits that the new claims are also distinct from the prior art of record.

**Conclusion**

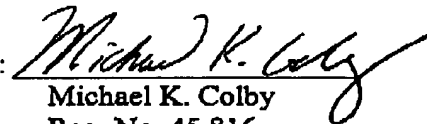
Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office issue a Notice of Allowability.

5

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 5 Apr 04

By:



Michael K. Colby

Reg. No. 45,816

(509) 324-9256 ext. 240

10